

# OUR LADY OF THE WAY PARISH, EMU PLAINS

*What does the Lord require of you but to act justly, to love tenderly, and to walk humbly with your God.” Micah 6:8*



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## Sunday, 20th August 2023 20<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

Welcome to the celebration of the Mass.

### **Entrance Antiphon** Cf Psalm 83:10-11

Turn your eyes, O God, our shield;  
and look on the face of your anointed one;  
one day within your courts  
is better than a thousand elsewhere.

### **First Reading** Isaiah 56:1.6-7

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

*I will lead the foreigners to my holy mountain.*

Thus says the Lord: Have a care for justice, act with integrity, for soon my salvation will come and my integrity be manifest.

Foreigners who have attached themselves to the Lord to serve him and to love his name and be his servants – all who observe the sabbath, not profaning it, and cling to my covenant – these I will bring to my holy mountain. I will make them joyful in my house of prayer. Their holocausts and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar, for my house will be called a house of prayer for all the peoples.

### **Responsorial Psalm.**

Ps 66:2-3 5-6. 8. R. v.4

**(R.) O God, let all the nations praise you!**

1. O God, be gracious and bless us  
and let your face shed its light upon us.  
So will your ways be known upon earth  
and all nations learn your saving help. (R.)

2. Let the nations be glad and exult  
for you rule the world with justice.  
With fairness you rule the peoples,  
you guide the nations on earth. (R.)

3. Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you.  
May God still give us his blessing  
till the ends of the earth revere him. (R.)

### **Second Reading** Romans 11:13-15. 29-32

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

*The gifts and call of God are irrevocable.*

Let me tell you pagans this: I have been sent to the pagans as their apostle, and I am proud of being sent, but the purpose of it is to make my own people envious of you, and in this way save some of them. Since their rejection meant the reconciliation of the world, do you know what their admission will mean? Nothing less than a resurrection from the dead! God never takes back his gifts or revokes his choice. Just as you changed from being disobedient to God, and now enjoy mercy because of their disobedience, so those who are disobedient now – and only because of the mercy shown to you – will also enjoy mercy eventually. God has imprisoned all men in their own disobedience only to show mercy to all mankind.

### **Gospel Acclamation** Matthew 4:23

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom  
and healed all who were sick.

**Alleluia!**

## **Gospel** [Matthew 15:21-28](#)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew  
*Woman, you have great faith.*

Jesus left Gennesaret and withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. Then out came a Canaanite woman from that district and started shouting, 'Sir, Son of David, take pity on me. My daughter is tormented by a devil.' But he answered her not a word. And his disciples went and pleaded with him. 'Give her what she wants,' they said 'because she is shouting after us.' He said in reply, 'I was sent only to the lost sheep of the House of Israel.' But the woman had come up and was kneeling at his feet. 'Lord,' she said 'help me.' He replied, 'It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the house-dogs.' She retorted, 'Ah yes, sir; but even house-dogs can eat the scraps that fall from their master's table.' Then Jesus answered her, 'Woman, you have great faith. Let your wish be granted.' And from that moment her daughter was well again.

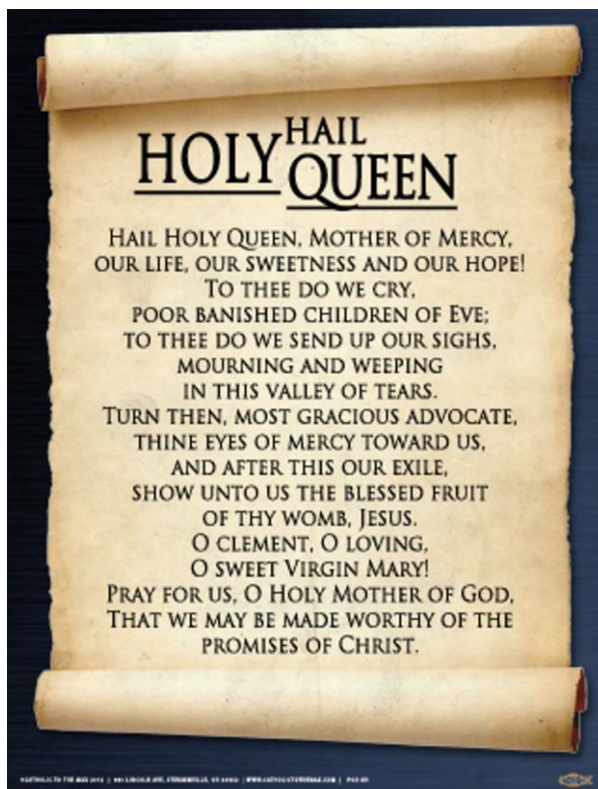
## **Communion Antiphon.** [Psalm 129:7](#)

With the Lord there is mercy;  
in him is plentiful redemption.

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## **Vinnies Community Sleepout** – 25th Aug,23:

Help Vinnies break the cycle of homelessness by joining our Western Sydney Vinnies Community Sleepout and braving the cold for one night! This will take place at Western Sydney University, Parramatta Sth Campus (Rydalmere). All funds raised will go towards supporting Vinnies Support Centres in Penrith, Blacktown, Emerton and Harris Park. For more information, please contact Tom Cook (ph. 0421197838) or Melissa Topp (0425301525). Flyers are also available in the church foyer.



## **Pope's Quote:**

"If the Angels could envy, they would envy us for Holy Communion." **Pope Pius X**

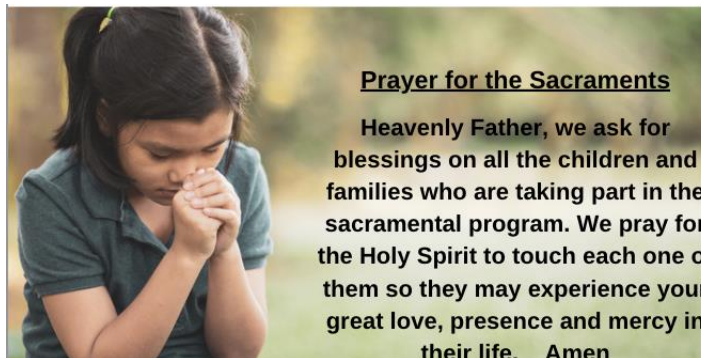
**Let us pray:** We pray for those recently deceased, and for Sandra Levinge, Pearl Levinge and Frances Hendry whose death anniversaries are at this time. We pray that their families find



comfort in the fact that they are safely in the arms of their loving Lord. We also pray for all our brothers and sisters in our community who are unwell, especially, Trish McGettigan, Pauline Balkin, Mary Goyed, Valerie Plummer, Shirley Harman, Greg Wood, Dot Gray, June Sultana, Stuart Cameron, Frank Sirotti, Mary Rose, Maria Mercieca, Marta Mederos, Lucy Mikosic, Margaret Houlahan, Henry O'Malley, Elisabeth Robens, Marion Betker, George Dacronia, and Andrew Keenan. If you know someone who needs prayers, please contact the parish office on 4735 1041 and we will add them to our prayer list.

## Parish Notices:

**Sacramental news:** Please join me in praying for the children and their families who are preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation. Thanks, and blessings, Cate



### Prayer for the Sacraments

Heavenly Father, we ask for blessings on all the children and families who are taking part in the sacramental program. We pray for the Holy Spirit to touch each one of them so they may experience your great love, presence and mercy in their life. Amen

**Playgroup:** Please be advised that Playgroup has recommenced and will run fortnightly. The next date will be **Tuesday 22nd August at 10am** in the Parish Hall. No fees are payable. All welcome! Please contact the Parish Office for more information on 4735 1041.

**Wrap with love knitters group** meets on Thursdays from 9am -12pm in the parish hall. For more information, please contact Judy Prendergast (0407 101 254) or Julia Hayes (0452 665 844).

**Catholic Care Blue Mountains** are in need of food donations at their emergency drop-in centre. We have offered to help and are holding a monthly food drive, **starting this weekend** (and then continuing every 3<sup>rd</sup> weekend of the month). Please consider popping an extra pantry item or two (eg Cereal, tinned fish,) in your weekly shopping basket to help those in need, then place it in the container at rear of church. A list of required grocery items is available at the rear of the church. *We also need volunteers to assist in sorting and delivering food on Monday 21st Aug.* Please call Carol Burke on 0432 982 773 if you are able to help. Thank you.

### **Readers/ Commentators roster:**

Dates:	6.00pm	8.00am	9.30am
19/20 August	Stevenie Harman Anne Deutscher JS: Alex Tuballa C: Debra Gleeson R: Mary Balam	Matthew Topp John Lo Cascio JS: N/A C: Maria Sirotti R: Kay Walker	Hartley Dhyon Kevin Balkin Denise Robens (Visit) JS: Matthew Hamilton C: Lisa Samojlowicz R: Courtney Hamilton
26/27 August	Stevenie Harman Debra Gleeson JS: Alex Tuballa C: Louise Goderie R: Marie McLennan	Mark Norbury Barbara Ryan JS: N/A C: Paul Ryan R: Jessica Topp	Lara Roser David Green Noeline Bagnel Heather Barlow (Visit only) JS: Matthew Hamilton C: Marianne Castor R: Denise Robens

**Feast of Our Lady of Penafranci:** The First Triduum Novena and Mass was celebrated on Saturday, 19<sup>th</sup> August - The Replica of Our Lady of Penafrancia and the banner of El Divino Rostro will remain in the church until Saturday, 26<sup>th</sup> August. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Triduum Novena and Mass will be at St Michael's Church Blacktown, on 26<sup>th</sup> August, commencing at 11:00am. Further details can be found on the noticeboard at the rear of the church.

### Catholic Care Refugee Sponsorship

**Program:** You are invited to join Rita Hakkoum from Catholic Care Refugee Sponsorship Program on 24<sup>th</sup> September, after the 9:30am Mass, to learn about the program and how you can help. Rita has assisted many groups from different Parishes in the Diocese and will share her experience.

"Whenever you did this to one of the least of my brothers and sisters, you did it to me", Mt:25:40.

Looking forward to seeing you.

**Welcome Basil the Guide dog:** One of our families in the church community have been raising a guide dog for the last eleven months. He will be coming to church with the family over the next couple of weeks so please be as understanding as you can.



**Become a Catechist:** Sharing the Gospel with students in our public schools is an important ministry in our Parish. You will be joining a supportive team and curriculum materials and ongoing training is provided. We'd love for you to join us! To enquire/enrol, please speak to our Parish Catechist Coordinator, Mary Marsh, on 0408 212 437.

**GIRLS NIGHT!** Theme: Authentically you, authentically Catholic Friday 25th August, 7pm @ the church hall. Come along for chats, food, activities, prayer and guest speaker- Jess Doherty! This is a night aimed for young women Year 7 and up. RSVP to Claire - 0432599570 [clairebrownmusic@gmail.com](mailto:clairebrownmusic@gmail.com)

## Parish Information

**Parish office open Tuesday to Friday from 9:00am to 3pm. (ph: 4735 1041)**

Parish priest: Fr Michael G. Gathuku

Deacon: Batsirai Maringehosi

Parish Office Administrator: Michele Norbury

Sacramental Co-ordinator: Cate Kensey

Parish Administration Assistant: Joanne Hamilton

Our Lady of the Way principal:

Phillip Kapitanow (ph: 4777 7200)

Penola Catholic college principal:

Jim Fanning (ph: 4728 8100)

CathWest Innovation College principal:

Paul Stenning (ph: 02 8886 9500)

St Vincent de Paul Contact Centre:

For assistance call 1800 606 724.

## **Weekend Mass times:**

Saturday 6 pm, Sunday 8am, 9:30am

Filipino Mass, 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month: 1pm

## **Weekday Masses:**

Tuesday 6pm;

Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday 9am.

Adoration of Blessed Sacrament at 8.30am

Thursday before Mass. Benediction last

Thursday of the month.

First Fridays of the month – healing Mass.

**Reconciliation:** Saturday 5pm.

**Sacraments:** baptisms and weddings by appointment. Please contact the parish office ([emuplains@parracatholic.org](mailto:emuplains@parracatholic.org)) for information on reconciliation, communion and confirmation.

## Diocese of Parramatta Notices:

### **Kairos Prison Ministry for Women**

This support group is for women who have family members serving a prison sentence. Live-in weekends are held twice a year at Mt Schoenstatt, Mulgoa. This is a safe space where women can meet and share with others their challenges. The next weekend will be held November 10 – 12, 2023.

### **Free English and Citizenship Classes**

Catholic Care Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains are offering English and Citizenship classes at Mamre House, 181 Mamre Rd, Orchard Hills, on a Tuesday and Wednesday from 10am to 2pm during school terms. Free childcare is available. If you are interested in enrolling, please contact Mamre Crèche on (02) 8843 2506 or Nepean Community College (02) 4724 9000.

### **St Marys Parish Don Bosco Relic Visit: 23 – 27 August**

The relic statue of St John Bosco, better known as Don Bosco, will be visiting

Our Lady of the Rosary Parish, St Marys, as part of the celebrations of the centenary of the arrival of the Salesians on Australian soil. There will be opportunities to venerate the relic and celebrate Mass, Adoration and Confessions throughout the week. For more information, contact the parish office on (02) 9623 1962 or email [secretary@lrchurch@inet.net.au](mailto:secretary@lrchurch@inet.net.au)

## Saints of the week:

Aug 21st – St. Pope Pius X

Aug 22nd – The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Aug 23rd – St. Rose of Lima

Aug 24th – St. Bartholomew

Aug 25th – St. Louis IX, King of France

Aug 26th – Bl. Pope John Paul I

## **REACH BEYOND** to new horizons.

Set out and share your skills through a long-term assignment in Asia, Africa or the Pacific.

See current opportunities at [palms.org.au](http://palms.org.au)

Request an info pack: [palms@palms.org.au](mailto:palms@palms.org.au)

 Palms Australia

### Who is Palms Australia?

With over 60 years experience, Palms Australia recruits qualified and experienced Australians who participate in an exchange of knowledge and skills to meet the requests of overseas communities seeking to reduce poverty by developing the capacities of their people and organisations.

### What skills are we looking for?

The skills we recruit are determined by the requests we receive from community organisations overseas including educators, accountants, managers, tradespeople, agriculturalists, IT specialists, community and social workers, doctors, & health workers.

### Where are the current opportunities?

We currently have requests from communities in Papua New Guinea, Zambia, Tanzania, Timor Leste, Kiribati, Solomon Islands, Samoa, Cambodia, Philippines and American Samoa. New requests are added regularly.

### REGISTER NOW!

Register for our webinar and be inspired as Michele, Anjelica & Rofina speak about their intercultural experiences and learn about our other opportunities abroad. There might be a position that calls to you.

Scan this QR Code to register for our upcoming "Global Development Opportunities" webinar



## Parish bank details:

If you would like to support our priest and church financially through **online banking:**

Name: Emu Plains Catholic church

BSB: 067 950

Account Number: 00000289